

Message Text

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ACTION SWF-01

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, BE

SUBJECT: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE--BELGIAN VIEWS ON PROPOSED RESOL-
UTIONS

REF: (A) STATE 237804

(B) BRUSSELS 8511 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO MALBRECQ AT BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY, HIS
GOVERNMENT AGREES WITH U.S. VIEWS AS OUTLINED IN
REFTEL A WITH REGARD TO RESOLUTIONS ONE, TWO, FOUR, SIX,
NINE AND TEN.

2. CONCERNING RESOLUTION THREE, BELGIANS BELIEVE GREATER
STRESS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE NEED FOR NEW FERTILIZER
PRODUCTION FACILITIES, PARTICULARLY IN THE LDC'S THEMSELVES.

3. CONCERNING RESOLUTION FIVE, BELGIANS BELIEVE GREATER
STRESS SHOULD BE GIVEN ON ASSISTING LDC'S IN THE DEVELOPMENT
OF NUTRITION PLANS.

4. CONCERNING RESOLUTION SEVEN, THE BELGIANS BELIEVE
THAT THE TIME IS NOT YET RIPE FOR DISCUSSIONS LEADING TO
A FIRM AGREEMENT ON AN INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF NATIONAL
RESERVES. BELGIUM ALSO BELIEVES THAT THE GATT WILL

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ULTIMATELY BE THE APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS.

5. CONCERNING RESOLUTUION EIGHT, THE BELGIANS BELIEVE THAT INTERNATIONAL AND MULTILATERAL CHANNELS SHOULD BE USED INCREASINGLY FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS AND THAT BILATERAL ASSISTANCE IS NOT PREFERABLE. (THEY HAVE NOT YET DECIDED ON THEIR POSITION ON THE UTILITY OF CHANNELING A LARGER PORTION OF FOOD AID THROUGH THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, HOWEVER.) BELGIUM ALSO BELIEVES THAT GREATER EFFORTS MUST BE MADE IN PLANNING FOOD NEEDS IN THE MEDIUM TERM.

6. BELGIAN WFC DELEGATION WILL BE LED BY FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE WHO IS EXPECTED TO ATTEND ONLY FOR ONE OR TWO DAYS--PROBABLY DURING THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 6-8.

7. OTHERS ON THE BELGIAN DELEGATION WILL BE:
MR. EMILE LOTZ, BELGIAN PERMREP AT FAO; MR. ANDRE REGNIER, BELGIAN DEPUTY PERMREP AT FAO; MR. GERARD SURQUIN, CHIEF, PRIMARY MATERIALS AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS SECTION OF BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY; MR. POSTWISK, BELGIAN PERMREP AT MISCELLANEOUS INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS; MR. ALBERT RAMBOUX, FOREIGN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE DIVISION OF BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY; MR. LENOTTE, FOREIGN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE DIVISION OF BELGIAN FONMIN; MR. A. DOUBOUVERIE, BELGIAN AGMIN; AND MR. R.BIRON, BELGIAN AGMIN. FIRESTONE

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